THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) A Central Sector Scheme namely Vocational Training in Tribal Areas is being implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs through State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and Non Government Organisations with the objective of developing skills of tribal youth.

With respect to technical education in the States of Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh, there are Central Technical Institutions such as the Indian School of Mines at Dhanbad, the National Institute of Foundry and Forge Technology at Ranchi and the National Institute of Technology at Raipur. Besides, the All India Council for Technical Education has also granted approval to 56 institutes with an intake of 9,400 student's in Chhattisgarh and to 42 institutes with an intake of 8,280 students in Jharkhand for Degree/Diploma courses for the year 2006-07.

**Mid-day meal to children in tribal areas**

1358. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether mid-day meal is given only to children studying in Government schools in tribal areas; and

(b) if so, the reasons for which Government do not extend mid-day-meal to children studying in NGO managed schools of tribal areas, where malnutrition among children is highest in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) As per existing guidelines of National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education, 2004 (Mid-Day Meal Scheme), the scheme covers children studying in classes I—V in schools run by Government, Local Body and Government-aided schools, and Education Guarantee Scheme (EGS) and Alternative & Innovative Education (AIE) Centres.

Accordingly, mid-day meal, at present is being provided to such schools/ centres as per the Guidelines.